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Akin Urges Congress to Pass AMT Patch Without Raising Taxes

Washington, DC - Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO), is calling on the Democrats to scrap their proposal to increase taxes overall in order to fix the alternative minimum tax (AMT).

H.R. 3996, the Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007, which is being brought to the House floor by the Democratic leadership today, is one part of the House Democrats proposed tax legislation that has been criticized for its \$3.5 trillion in tax increases.

"The series of tax bills proposed by Democrats represents what would be the largest tax increases in our nation's history," said Akin. "The proposed AMT fix we are voting for today alone would hike taxes by \$81 billion."

The AMT has not been adjusted for inflation since it was created in 1969. If Congress does not provide a patch some 21 million Americans will face an average tax increase of \$2,000 this year.

Unless the Democrat leadership fixes the AMT with a patch, as many as 50 million taxpayers could face delays of up to ten weeks in receiving their tax refunds next year.

"This Democratic tax bill will cause more Americans to be taxed by taxing capital gains as income," said Akin. "Worse yet, it is known that this is not likely to pass the Senate, which means that this is not a tenable solution to a very real threat to American taxpayer."

"This is an unnecessary practice of partisan brinkmanship by Democrats at the peril of the American taxpayer," stated Akin.